

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02791 310115Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 /071 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5091
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2791

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNGA, RQ, US, ET
SUBJ: COMMITTEE OF 24 (C-24) CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO:
ETHIOPIA

REF: A) STATE 203061, B) ADDIS ABABA 5184

1. PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS REF A, MISOFF DISCUSSED C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO WITH ETHIOPIAN DEPUTY PERM REP BEKELE ON AUGUST 30. IN A CORDIAL 30-MINUTE CONVERSATION, MISOFF PROVIDED A DETAILED REVIEW OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN PUERTO RICO, THE LEGISLATIVE HISTORY OF UN CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO, AND US VIEWS ON C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO. BEKELE SAID THAT HE HAD ASSUMED THAT THERE HAD BEEN A CHANGE IN THE US ATTITUDE ON C-24 CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO. MISOFF ASSURED HIM THAT SUCH WAS NOT THE CASE.

2. NOTING THAT MANY C-24 MEMBERS ASSUME ETHIOPIA WOULD VOTE AGAINST A MOTION TO POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF PUERTO RICO AND IN FAVOR OF THE CUBAN DRAFT RESOLUTION, BEKELE SAID THAT ETHIOPIA DOESN'T LIKE TO BE "TAKEN FOR GRANTED" ONE WAY OR THE OTHER. HE SAID THE ETHIOPIAN VOTE MIGHT BE A SURPRISE TO SOME PEOPLE. BEKELE IN NO
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PAGE 02 USUN N 02791 310115Z

WAY INDICATED THAT THE GOE WOULD OPPOSE A CONSENSUS IF THAT WERE THE C-24'S INCLINATION. HE SAID THAT THE CUBANS COULD WITHDRAW THEIR RESOLUTION (IF THERE IS WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR A CONSENSUS) WITHOUT LOSING UNDUE FACE AND COULD JUSTIFIABLY CLAIM THAT THEY HAD MADE A GOOD FAITH EFFORT ON BEHALF OF THE INDEPENDENCE CAUSE.

3. COMMENT: BEKELE IS WELL INFORMED AND
PERSONABLE. HE HAD AT HIS COMMAND A WEALTH OF DETAIL
CONCERNING PUERTO RICO AND INDICATED COMPLETE AWARE-
NESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF US VIEWS.
LEONARD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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